

## PRESS RELEASE

Police Department SERGIO G. DIAZ Chief of Police

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Police Department Conducts "IMPACT" Inspections

Riverside, CA – On November 3, 2017, the Riverside Police Department's Vice Unit conducted inspections of Department of Alcohol Beverage Control (ABC) licensed premises that sell alcohol. Tonight's efforts focused on off-sale liquor stores within the City of Riverside. No major violations were discovered but nine of the ten locations inspected tonight will require additional follow-up to correct minor administrative issues.

IMPACT stands for Informed Merchants Preventing Alcohol-Related Crime Tendencies. It is a cooperative program between ABC, local law enforcement agencies, and licensees. The primary objective of the project is to educate licensees about the various ways they can participate in reducing alcohol-related crimes such as sales to underage and obviously intoxicated persons.

IMPACT teams remind licensees of the responsibilities and accountability associated with the sale of alcoholic beverages. This is accomplished by identifying areas of non-compliance and providing crime prevention information. The focus is to educate rather than to enforce. Merchants have accepted the program and its philosophy because they are being offered an opportunity to identify weaknesses in their alcoholic beverage sales system and to correct deficiencies without penalties.

Local communities endorse the program as it improves the relationship between law enforcement and merchants. Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) through the department's Grant Assistance Program.

